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State Transport workers (incentive bonus)

* 1896 *Q.*—Will the Hon. Minister of Electricity be pleased to state :

(*a*) the details of the scheme for giving incentive bonus to the mechanical and body-building section of the Transport department;

(*b*) the amount so far given ;

(*c*) the average amount of bonus given to a worker so far ; and

(*d*) whether this will be extended to the Kanyakumari district also?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Particulars are being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMI : Sir, the non-pensionable staff of the Kanyakumari Branch of the Transport Department were getting bonus before the reorganisation of States. May I know whether the Government will continue that bonus system or make them pensionable staff?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : This question does not arise out of the main question. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I shall answer it.

State transport workers (minimum wages)

* 1897 *Q.*—SRI S. M. ANNAMALAI : கனம் மின்சார அமைச்சர் தயவு செய்து கீழ்க்கண்ட கேள்விகளுக்குப் பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) சர்க்கார் பஸ்களில் வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்களுக்காக குறைந்தபட்ச ஊதியக் கமிட்டி நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதா ?

(இ) அப்படியாயின், அதில் யார் யார் உறுப்பினர்கள் ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (அ) No separate committee for fixing minimum rates of wages for the workers employed in the Madras State Transport Department has been set up. They are covered by the Pay Commission recommendations.

(இ) Does not arise, Sir.

SRI S. M. ANNAMALAI : சம்பளக் கமிஷன் சிபாரிசுப்படி இப்பொழுது சம்பளம் வழங்கப்பட்டு வருகிறதா ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I want a separate question for this.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is dearth of trained bus drivers and we are not in a position to get trained personnel. Also is that not due to the low wages paid to them whereas the drivers employed by private agencies like S.R.V.S. and P.T. Ltd., are getting much more than what the

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Government are paying them. So, would the Government revise their scales of pay so as to serve as an incentive for able and experienced drivers to take up work in our Transport Department?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I have just now stated that the pay question has been looked into by the Pay Commission which we have set up. But as far as dearth of personnel is concerned, it is not only the pay question that stands in the way but much more than that. We are not able to get trained personnel and for this purpose the State Transport Department have been giving special attention to train sufficient number of drivers which we require.

SRI V. K. KOTHANDARAMAN : சர்க்கார் பஸ்களில் வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு, மற்ற தனியார் பஸ்களில் வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய தொழிலாளர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய "பாடாவில்" பாதி அளவுக்குத் தான் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. அது ரூ. 1-2-0 என்று நினைக்கிறேன். அதை உயர்த்துவதற்கு ஏதாவது உத்தேசம் உண்டா, உயர்த்தப்பட்டுள்ளதா ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : All these points must have been gone into by the Pay Commission when they submitted their recommendations. Now I do not have the particulars required by the hon. Member. If he is really interested, he may put a separate question and we will get the necessary information that he requires.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMI : May I know what sort of training is being given to these drivers? They are already holding driving licences and may I know what is the special training given by the Transport Department?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : It is not that we are giving retraining to the drivers as such. Many persons have joined the Department as other employees and we also have got a training programme, under which training is given to new personnel to work as drivers and conductors as such.

State Transport workers (impersonation at departmental examination)

* 1898 *Q.*—SRI T. S. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any of the Transport employees were charged for false personation in the departmental examination during the last financial year; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken on the concerned persons?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) and (*b*) Yes Sir. Two persons of the Madras State Transport Department were prosecuted for false personation in the Departmental Examination. The Court found one of them not guilty of any of the charges. The other person was convicted and was released on probation of good conduct for a period of one year. Disciplinary action was also taken against him for departmental misdemeanour.